

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 DODE-00 DPW-01 SS-15 PM-04

L-03 H-02 IO-11 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 NSC-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 SCA-01 SCS-03 /084 R

DRAFTED BY EA/VLC:MJSPEAR

APPROVED BY D/HA:FASIEVERTS

EA/VLC - MR. HARR

DOD/ISA - DR. SHIELDS (INFO)

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R 020030Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652:NA

TAGS: CASC, PFOR, VN

SUBJECT: REPATRIATION OF FRENCH REMAINS FROM NORTH VIETNAM

REF: PRATT LETTER TO SPEAR, FEB. 10, 1976

1. SELECT COMMITTEE HAS RETAINED ANITA LAUVE AS CONSULTANT. SHE IS PREPARING TESTIMONY FOR HEARING IN 2-3 WEEKS ON FRENCH EXPERIENCE WITH POW/MIAS. MATERIAL IN REFERENCED LETTER HAS BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO HER.

2. WE WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER ADDITIONAL INFO YOU CAN OBTAIN FROM GOF OR OTHER SOURCES ON THE RETURN OF THE 32 BODIES. FOLLOWING ARE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS TO WHICH WE WOULD LIKE ANSWERS IF POSSIBLE:

A) DID FRENCH SUPERVISE EXHUMATION?

B) WERE REMAINS IN ORIGINALLY FRENCH CEMETERIES, OR ELSE-
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WHERE?

C) WHAT FRENCH SERVICES (ARMY, AF)? WHAT NATIONALITIES
(FRENCH OR AFRICAN)? ANY DESERTERS, RALLIERS OR POWS?
D) WHEN WAS LAST TIME REMAINS WERE RETURNED?
E) RETURN TO "FAMILY MEMBERS" SUGGEST REMAINS WERE IDENTI-
FIED. WERE THEY?
F) HAVE ANY OF THEM EVER BEEN LISTED AS MIA, OR WERE ALL
KNOWN TO BE DEAD?
G) COST TO FRENCH? DOLLARS OR FRANCS?
H) DID THIS REPATRIATION OF REMAINS RESULT FROM RECENT
GOF-DRV NEGOTIATIONS, SOME UNRELATED IMPROVEMENT IN
RELATIONS, NEW FINANCIAL AGREEMENTS, OR THE END OF
FIGHTING AND A RESULTING CAPABILITY TO RECOVER REMAINS?

3. IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF THIS INFORMATION COULD BE
SUPPLIED ASAP. MS. LAUVE SUGGESTS MR. CALLEN OF AMERICAN
BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION MIGHT BE HELPFUL, IN ADDITION
TO FRENCH SOURCES.

4. SEPARATE FROM FOREGOING, DR. ROGER SHIELDS, DOD/ISA,
PLANS TO BE IN PARIS AND HOPES TO CALL ON PRATT MORNING
OF MARCH 5 FOR REVIEW OF POW/MIA ISSUES. SUGGEST SUBJECT
THIS MESSAGE AND RELATED MATTERS BE DISCUSSED WITH HIM.
INGERSOLL

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